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Chief, Foreign Division M

2 April 1951

Chief of Station, Karlsruhe

ZIPPER - Operational

SATURN Cover Designations and Identity Cards

REF: MILA-5905 - *for PROJ 145*

1. After considerable discussion among the POB staff directing SATURN, it was decided that the ZIPPER SATURN operations could best be covered under the usual type military cover unit designation, due to the numerous advantages still to be gained by the use of this type cover. Such cover was needed to obtain operational housing where necessary. In addition, personal identity cards for strictly emergency use only were to be prepared for SATURN personnel. It should be emphasized that no actual SATURN agents or operators will receive such identity cards, however, or be connected in any way with an organized cover.

2. To implement this plan, POB requested and obtained EUCOM approval (see attached orders) of three cover units to cover SATURN activities as follows:

<u>Unit Designation</u>	<u>Cover For</u>
6211 Engineer Service Company	Munich Housing of SATURN Staff
6434 Signal Operations Company	Personal cover for SATURN recruiters and travelling staff members. Frankfurt House.
6440 Engineer Topographical Unit	Burial Teams.

3. Attempt was made, within the narrow scope provided by the EUCOM Station List, to select unit names identical with or similar to actual units, but also names to which suitable cover stories could be adapted. Thus, a member of the Signal Operations Company, who will carry radio equipment on occasion will also carry charts and graphs tending to prove that he is engaged in a radio field intensity survey (note text on reverse side of sample card). And a member of a burial team could, in case of emergency, "prove" that he is justifiably in possession of surveying equipment.

NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT

EXEMPTIONS Section 3(b)

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4. At the same time, we have tried to influence the psychology of SATURN members who will hold identity cards for these units from the usual 'show your identity card at the least provocation' tendency to a 'show your official identity only as a last resort' basis. This idea has been enthusiastically accepted by the ZIPPER leaders of the SATURN effort as consistent with the high degree of security necessary in the whole undertaking. They have in turn promised to sell the idea to all staff members, particularly emphasizing that the identity card, to be sure, is insurance against unjust prosecution for acts done in the course of official duty, but that blowing of cover by production of the identity card automatically ends the usefulness of any given member to the operation.

5. In an attempt to convince the SATURN staff that we are serious about the 'new psychology' of identity cards, we have devised cards (samples attached) which are quite unlike any other ZIPPER identification, which are fairly official in appearance, and not likely to be passed off by other theater agencies as 'just another TIB effort'. POB control of the cards (through the necessity of having them laminated) also conveniently results in our obtaining complete ZIPPER SATURN-staff OS, which is quite cheerfully handed over for this purpose, though refused as a matter of principle when demanded on any other basis.

5. We are attaching hereto in tabular form for the three SATURN cover designations, lists of cover names and descriptive data, together with copies of the reverse side of cards we have returned to ZIPPER SATURN staff to date. We have numbered both cover names and card copies clearly in ink. True names and photographs cross-referenced by the same number system follow in MOLA-5905. We shall forward additional data to complete the charts and photographs, when possible.

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